

the Phoenix Nest

ONCE in the now dim past of the Moving Pictures, David Wark Griffith put on a great film called "Intolerance." It traced the spirit of intolerance through the ages. In these days it should be revived. A distinguished free-thinker once said, and my own father once contended, that it was easy to understand and even to sympathize with the policy of the Spanish Inquisition if you considered the point of view of its most convinced members. Their doctrine was that man's eternal salvation depended upon his embracing the one truth faith. Eternal salvation is certainly a most serious matter.

Therefore, granted that you believe in it and that you know—as these believed they did—by just what means men are forfeiting that priceless boon, the infliction of any amount of merely

temporary suffering is justified by the securing for its victims of eternal welfare. Sometimes I meditate upon the "forcers of conscience" in our own day, those who promote and justify intolerance toward any point of view not their own. The only difference seems to me that today they take the ground that since their own ideology is going to result, as they are convinced, in a well-nigh perfect temporal state of all mankind, the infliction of any amount of suffering upon those who, temporarily, do not believe it will do any such thing, is thoroughly justified and necessary in order to bring about that well-nigh perfect state. I leave that thought with you, in a day when there is still great danger from intolerance and bigotry of all kinds.

We have recently had the appalling spectacle of a United States Senator babbling folly and intolerance in our own grave and august Senate; holding up legislation, inveighing, in gutter-snipe terms, against Jews and Negroes; calling the Fair Employment Practices Committee a communistic piece of legislation; behaving like a low-bred hoodlum and yahoo before the highest representative body in our land; and opening the whole Pandora-box of evil spirits to cloud and divide the counsel of men of reason and humanity. It has been a disgusting spectacle; one of the prices, I suppose, that we pay for democratic freedom of speech.

Only, stop a minute! I do not think for a minute that the institution of the filibuster has anything to do with freedom of speech, quite the contrary. It has everything to do with its suppression. It is a relic of—not barbarism but chicanery and folly. Those who advantage themselves by it are either political bosses, like the late Huey Long, or misrepresentatives of the people with the I.Q. of a two-year-old. They reflect extreme discredit upon the majority of Senators and Representatives who properly regard the filibuster as a tool of the lowest kind of political *force majeure*. Let us have done with this practice!

And there is an example of my *own* lack of tolerance, you may say! But what I should not at all object to, is the natural and democratic right of any person to have his full say upon any measure, and to state completely his own opinion, much as I might violently disagree with it. In a filibuster, however, you can read *anything* into the record. The tax-payers of the U. S. pay for this farce! And so long as they do, deserve what they get.

BOOK-REVIEW LEAVE-OUT
Of the Hays Office, "Holy! Holy!
Holy!"
Cries the World's Leading Casuist.
* * *

Corporal Wallace B. Hoffman sends me the following letter from Peine, Germany:

In some of your columns in recent issues of *The Saturday Review of Literature* I've noticed your interest in the reading habits and opinions of men who are in the service. I'm sure that at least some of us will constitute a part of subsequent American literary offerings, either as writers, or at least as readers.

The last war produced some poems and stories which became well-known to every school child. None of us will ever forget "In Flanders Fields," or "Rouge Bouquet." I have watched all publications during this war for something which will be as great, and will rank as highly in our hearts as do those poems of McCrea and Kilmer. So far, I have personally discovered only one sonnet, which I thought you might care to pass on to your readers. It is the enclosed "Sonnet for Charlotte" which I found in an obscure corner of *Yank* in one of the April issues, 1944. It was written by Private First Class Dudley Shoemaker; I don't know who he is, where he's from, or what he is now doing. The by-line merely said that he was in the South Pacific at the time the sonnet was submitted to *Yank*. The only other reference I've seen made to the sonnet was in the question column of one of last summer's *New York Times Book Reviews* when someone sent part of it in for identification. I think it deserves consideration, and hope you'll like it as much as the soldiers to whom I've shown it.

SONNET FOR CHARLOTTE

Be with me always in the days ahead
When I shall doubt that loveliness re-
mains,
That truth and beauty live in all this
pain.
Let me remember little things you
said,
The way you laughed and how the
shadows fled
Before your smile; the haunting strains
Of songs you sang, and warm Sep-
tember rains.
Let me remember moments all too
quickly sped,
And though I leave the dreams I called
my own
To walk apart in some far-distant land
Fighting to hold the happiness we've
known,
Your love, your courage will beside
me stand
Till in the midst of battle all alone
I call to you and reaching, touch your
hand.

PFC. DUDLEY SHOEMAKER.
So. Pacific
Yank, April, '44.

You'll be interested in knowing that some of us have read your column, or department, in *The Saturday Review*, in eight countries (nine, if you count the U. S.) and find it always interesting and informative.

WILLIAM ROSE BENÉT.

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(Continued on next page)

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PERSONALS

(Continued from page 37)

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PERSONALS

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The Crostics Club

By Elizabeth S. Kingsley

MRS. CHESTER H. KING, Cazenovia, N. Y., stresses DCs as a pastime for a grandmother living on a farm in the country and liking it. She comments on mythological references that in the solution do not square with the information obtained in a text book her son used at Harvard. I think I once wrote in this column of such disparities called to my attention by puzzlers and of the reply received from "Webster's New International" when I protested the points. Our mythological knowledge of those ages comes to us today in such books as are now extant, and Homer may differ from Ovid. For my purposes and no doubt because I happen to own a copy from student days I like Gayley's "Classic Myths," as well arranged topically and of a literary tone I like. He frequently quotes at length a whole poem relating to the subject in hand, as, with facts about Arethusa Shelley's lyrical story of her wanderings, worthy of being placed, in my view, with "The Skylark" and other poems by him more often quoted. To get back, however, to Mrs. King, she says that recently she sent a copy of our "Invitation" to her son in Italy by request.

Mrs. Hendee Rice, Hartford, recently sent copies of DCs to a major station in France and to several friends in London, one of whom writes that she is deep in Dennis Brogan's "The American Character." Mrs. Hendee mentions particularly that Transatlantic Quiz radio program on which Brogan is such a shining light. The program, I think, is even more entertaining than it was, for they have broadened its scope from local allusions, devoting half of it now to general questions not necessarily related to customs, practices, etc., and John Mason Brown has replaced Frank Fay. Morley and Brown make an admirable team!

Both Miss Hope Washburn and Miss Genevieve Washburn, one of New York and the other of Tryon, N. C., have written me in response to my query about their mother, that she passed away in July 1943, using almost to the end our DCs as a mental diversion. "Only," writes Hope, "she allowed herself to look at the answers more and more, with a kind of amused declaration that she no longer felt sheepish about it."

Miriam D. Tompkins, just for a bit of added amusement, utilizes the words in each week's DC in an original story. Space prevents my giving you the whole of one she sent me, but as a sample I'll quote a couple of sentences: "Mr. Laidlaw sat under a tree on a slope of Mount Washusett while his playful griffon gambled at his feet." On second thoughts the whole is good enough for your reading and I'll continue it in our next.

JULY 14, 1945

DOUBLE-CROSTICS: No. 590

(IN NEGRO DIALECT)

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-six words, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. The letters in each word to be guessed are numbered. These numbers appear under the dashes in the column headed WORDS. There is a dash for each letter in the required word. The key letters in the squares are for convenience, indicating to which word in the definitions each letter in the diagram belongs. When you have guessed a word, fill it in on the dashes; then write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square on the puzzle diagram. When the squares are all filled in you will find (by reading from left to right) a quotation from a famous author. Reading up and down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate ends of words; therefore words do not necessarily end at the right side of the diagram.

When the column headed WORDS is filled in, the initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Authority for spelling and definitions is Webster's New International Dictionary (second edition).

The solution of last week's Double Crostic will be found on page 7 of this issue.

DEFINITIONS

- A. Hot drink of strong beer, white wine, gin, egg yolks, spices, sugar, etc.
- B. Plaits, crimps, flutes, as paper, lace.
- C. Strong; valiant (humorous).
- D. A matter of indifference (2 wds.)
- E. At the present time.
- F. Arab lateen-rigged vessels of the Indian Ocean.
- G. A skeleton; Death (Fig.)
- H. Want of decent reserve.
- I. A den of iniquity.
- J. Grim, revolting, as of a grave-robber.
- K. Great Hebrew prophet of 6th cent. B.C. (Bib.)
- L. Tall Brazilian palm used for baskets, etc.
- M. Odious hypocrite as title and character in play by Molière.
- N. Any decisive trial or examination.
- O. One wanting in intelligence.
- P. First name of one of three famed 19th century sisters, writers in England.
- Q. Monster father of the Sphinx, the Chimera, Cerberus (Gr. and Rom. Myth.)
- R. The malleus, incus, and stapes of the ear.
- S. Permanent pigment of brown earth valued by artists.
- T. Minor Hebrew prophet and O. T. Book (about 520 B.C.)
- U. Heroine of "The School for Scandal."
- V. Novel by Jane Austen.
- W. To shout to.
- X. Made prominent by stress.
- Y. Struck with amazement; terrified.
- Z. A long-billed snipe; winters in Central and So. America.

WORDS

16	155	166	29	142	98	27	48	76	163
160	154	35	30	11	122	149			
127	112	85	103	54	79	22			
38	42	81	128	32	179				
63	175	94	118	59	34	6	40		
25	137	1	106	37					
124	167	113	62	164	4	173	50		
72	75	9	58	92	181	13	97	146	
108	3	100	43	151	20	51	23	111	
60	117	55	99	7	95	24	161		
5	73	68	17	169	148	87			
93	39	56	147	182					
171	26	47	134	107	36	126	44		
144	109	96	65						
172	145	66	152	139	19	174			
90	12	104	69	153					
80	140	14	168	138	130				
141	52	157	159	105	150	31	53		
176	45	114	88	119					
177	102	46	67	129	71	61	135	77	
18	64	183	115	133	41	91	86	110	74
49	120	131	15						
89	28	178	33	84					
21	101	70	180	132	162	78	116		
8	57	2	125	143	83				
10	121	165	156	170	123	136	82	158	

				1	F			2	Y	3	I	4	G	5	K	6	E		7	J	8	Y	9	H					10	Z						
11	B	12	P			13	H	14	Q	15	V	16	A	17	K	18	U	19	O	20	I		21	X	22	C	23	I	24	J						
25	F	26	M	27	A			28	W	29	A	30	B	31	R	32	D			33	W	34	E	35	B	36	M	37	F		38	D				
39	L			40	E	41	U	42	D	43	I	44	M	45	S			46	T	47	M	48	A	49	V	50	G			51	I	52	R			
				53	R	54	C	55	J			56	L			57	Y	58	H	59	E			60	J	61	T	62	G			63	E	64	U	
65	N	66	O	67	T	68	K	69	P				70	X	71	T	72	H	73	K	74	U			75	H	76	A	77	T			78	X		
79	C	80	Q	81	D	82	Z					83	Y	84	W	85	C	86	U	87	K	88	S			89	W	90	P	91	U	92	H			
93	L			94	E	95	J	96	N	97	H			98	A	99	J	100	I				101	X	102	T	103	C	104	P	105	R				
106	F	107	M	108	I			109	N	110	U	111	I	112	C	113	G			114	S	115	U			116	X	117	J	118	E	119	S			
120	V			121	Z	122	B					123	Z	124	G	125	Y	126	M				127	C	128	D	129	T	130	Q			131	V	132	X
133	U	134	M	135	T	136	Z					137	F	138	Q	139	O			140	Q	141	R	142	A			143	Y	144	N	145	O	146	H	
				147	L	148	K	149	B			150	R	151	I	152	O			153	P	154	B	155	A			156	Z	157	R			158	Z	
159	R	160	B	161	J	162	X					163	A	164	G	165	Z			166	A	167	G	168	Q			169	K	170	Z	171	H	172	O	
173	G			174	O	175	E	176	S	177	T	178	W	179	D					180	X	181	H	182	L	183	U									